

Date: October 27, 2003 Label No. PA14771886US

I hereby certify that, on the date indicated above, I deposited this paper with identified attachments and/or fee with the U.S. Postal Service and that it was addressed for delivery to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 by "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service.

Kim Blum  
Name (Print)

Kim Blum  
Signature

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: BROWN et al.	)	Examiner: Unassigned
	)	
Application No.: 10/649,348	)	Group Art Unit: Unassigned
	)	
Filed: August 27, 2003	)	Confirmation No.: Unassigned
	)	
Docket No. 03029 (3600-374-11)	)	

For: METHODS TO CONTROL AND/OR PREDICT RHEOLOGICAL PROPERTIES

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(b)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

October 27, 2003

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Since this application has a filing date after June 30, 2003, no copies of U.S. Patents/Patent Application Publications are provided.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted before expiration of the three-month period following filing of the above-captioned application.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. *See* 37 CFR 1.104(a) and 1.106(b) concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

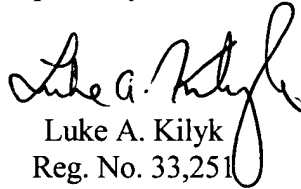
Information Disclosure Statement  
U.S. Patent Application No. 10/649,348

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in this application and applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicant reserves the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

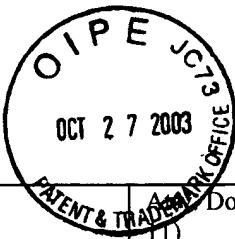
Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

It is believed that no fee is required to make this a complete and timely filing. However, if it is determined that a petition or fee is required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee associated with this statement to Deposit Account No. 03-0060.

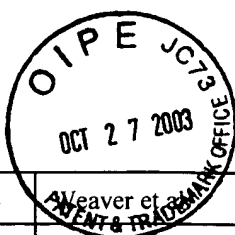
Respectfully submitted,

  
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Enclosures: PTO-1449, w/12 Documents



FORM PTO-1449 (REV 7-80)				Docket No. 03029 (3600-374-11)		Application No. 10/649,348	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b>				APPLICANT: BROWN et al.			
				Filing Date: August 27, 2003		Group Art Unit: Unassigned	
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
EXAMINER'S INITIALS		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE, IF APPROPRIATE
		3,659,896	5/2/72	Smith et al.	296	93	
		4,071,496	1/31/78	Kraus et al.	260	42.36	
		4,088,628	5/9/78	Bernstein et al.	260	42.46	
		4,255,296	3/10/81	Ogawa et al.	260	5	
		4,259,218	3/31/81	Haws	260	5	
		4,360,627	11/23/82	Okado et al.	524	496	
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	5,426,148	6/20/95	Tucker	524	496	
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	5,547,609	8/20/96	Fujii et al.	252	511	
	5,639,817	6/17/97	Probst et al.	524	496	
	5,643,991	7/1/97	Stipe et al.	524	496	
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		US 2002/0173582 A1	11/21/02	Schmidt	524	504	

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	TRANSLATION YES	NO

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	"Bound Rubber and Carbon Black Reinforcement," by E. M Dannenberg, 1986, pp. 512-524.
	"Filler-Elastomer Interactions. Part VII. Study on Bound Rubber," by Siegfried Wolff et al., reprinted from RUBBER CHEMISTRY AND TECHNOLOGY, Vol. 66, No. 2, May-June 1993, 163-177.
	"Standard Test Method for Carbon Black – Iodine Adsorption Number," ASTM Designation D 1510-99, pp. 271-275.
	"Standard Test Method for Carbon Black – CTAB (Cetyltrimethylammonium Bromide) Surface Area," ATSM Designation D 3765-99, pp. 563-568.
	"Standard Test Methods for Carbon Black – Surface Area by Multipoint B.E.T. Nitrogen Adsorption," ATSM Designation D 4820-97, pp. 763-769.
	"Standard Test Methods for Carbon Black – External Surface Area by Multipoint Nitrogen Adsorption," ATSM Designation D 5816-96, pp. 878-880.
	"Standard Test Method for Carbon Black – Total and External Surface Area by Nitrogen Adsorption," ATSM Designation D 6556-00a, pp. 970-974.

	"Roles of Work of Adhesion between Carbon Blacks and Thermoplastic Polymers on Electrical Properties of Composites," by Soo-Jin Park et al., published in the JOURNAL OF COLLOID AND INTERFACE SCIENCE 255, pp. 145-149 (2002).
	"Component Interactions and the Stability of Some Pigment/Polymer Dispersions," by P. Mukhopadhyay et al., published in the JOURNAL OF APPLIED POLYMER SCIENCE, Vol. 67, pp. 245-253 (1998).
	"Adhesion and Components of Solid Surface Energies," by John H. Clint, published in CURRENT OPINION IN COLLOID & INTERFACE SCIENCE 6, pp. 28-33 (2001).
	"Estimation of the Reliability of Hansen-Parameters of Photooxidative Degraded Polymer Films by Contact Angle Measurements," by Anita Horn et al., Hildesheim, Germany, pp. 1-12.
	"Basic and Acidic Surface Oxides on Carbon Fiber and Their Influence on the Expected Adhesion to Polyamide," by A. Bismarck et al., published in COLLOIDS AND SURFACES, A: Physiochemical and Engineering Aspects 159, pp. 341-350 (1999).
EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	